

Ascension of Our Lord
May 12, 2024



WELCOME TO EMANUEL

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please ask an usher.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT EMANUEL

Recognizing that we live in a broken world, Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness. As members of Emanuel Lutheran Church and children of a loving and merciful God, we acknowledge that this reconciliation extends to people of any gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, race, culture, physical or mental ability, economic circumstances, relationship status, or any person that has ever experienced pain or oppression. Because members of different communities may have been excluded from the Church in the past, we wish to make explicit our welcome to all. It is for this purpose that we affirm that ALL people are welcome here, just as they are, contributing their individuality to the wholeness of the Body of Christ.



SERVING TODAY

Presider.....Pastor Mark Olsen
Worship Leader.....Vicar Christine Pelfrey
Assisting Minister.....Trey Hazard
Reader.....Janice Favreau
Communion Preparers.....Val and Craig McDonald
Director of Music.....Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

EMANUEL MUSICIANS

Sarah Asmar, David Altschuler, Reham Atef, Adam Desmarais, Hillary Ekwall, Andy Foreman, Trey Hazard, Linda Helmke, Aron Kiehne, Kathryn Lees, Dan Luddy, Honoka Masuyama, Andy Nagle, Kari Olsen, Morgan Pope, Joel Reuning-Scherer, Jane Roets, Austin Tewksbury, Rachan Vamsi, Pastor Nancy Wright

AV TECHNICIANS

Paul Christianson, David Counterman, Baker Wainscoat

ALTAR FLOWERS

In memory of Linda Cutler, dedicated by her loving family.

Though not expected, when it happens, applause is a spontaneous expression of our thanksgiving to God for the gifts of music and of musicians that enrich our lives and enhance our worship.

Soli deo gloria – Glory to God alone

INTRODUCTION

In today's readings the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

PRELUDE

Joie et Clarte des Corps Glorieux

(Joy and Brightness of the Glorified Bodies) – Olivier Messiaen

“Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Maker”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: **Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

This Is the Feast

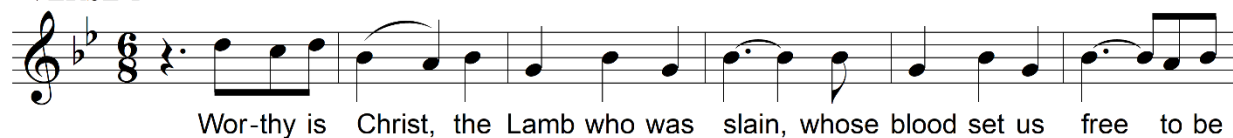


This is the feast of vic-to-ry. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

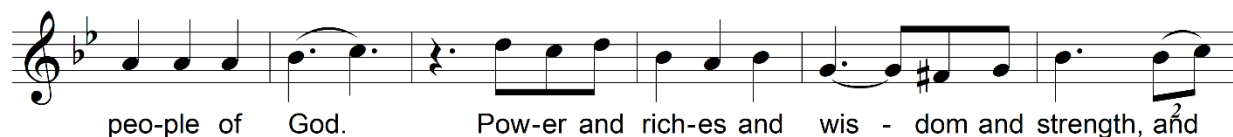


This is the feast of vic-to - ry Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

VERSE 1



Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

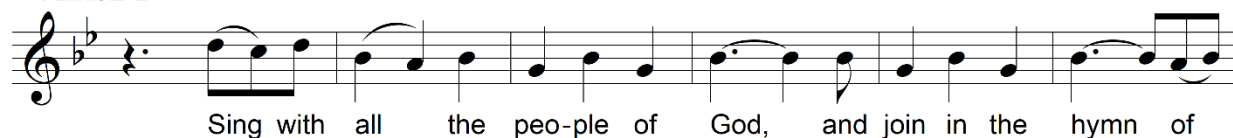


peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis - dom and strength, and

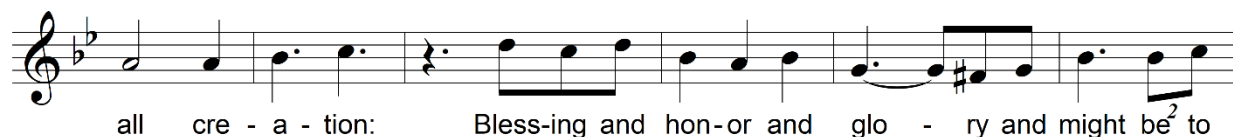


hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

VERSE 2



Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for ev - er. A men.

LAST REFRAIN



This is the feast of vic-to-ry. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia. For the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Almighty God,

C: **your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The children are now dismissed for Sunday School.

FIRST READING: ACTS 1:1-11

Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world, and that the disciples will be accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.

[Luke writes:] ¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 1:15-23

The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, Halle

Hal le, le, hal le lu jah! Hal le, le, hal le jah! Hal le, le, hal le lu jah! Hal le lu jah!

***GOSPEL: LUKE 24:44-53**

On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.

L: The holy gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴⁴[Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Vicar Christine Pelfrey

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Beautiful Savior'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with four verses. The first verse is '1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,'. The second is '2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,'. The third is '3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,'. The fourth is '4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,'. The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with some phrasing slurs and ties.

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in the flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

***APOSTLES CREED**

A: Let us join together in professing our faith using the words of the Apostles Creed.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition

A: God of Grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

We offer each other a sign of God's peace.

OFFERING MUSIC

O Clap Your Hands – Gibbons

Text from Psalm 47

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



*We offer our gifts – our time, our talent, and our treasure - to God,
in thanksgiving for all that God has given us.*

*To make your gift online, scan this code using your phone's camera
or QR scanner app.*

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Risen one,

C: **you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



The Lord be with you. And also with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



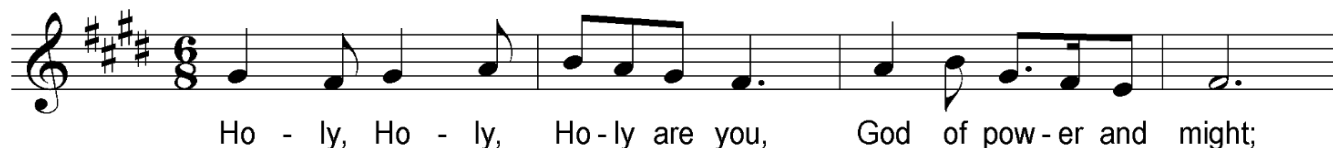
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY HOLY HOLY**



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might;



Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the



high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

All Are Welcome at the Table!

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

This is the Lord's Table and all are welcome to receive the bread & wine of communion.

Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available as needed.

The ushers will guide you out of your pew down the center aisle to the front of the church. Once you receive communion, please return to your seat by the side aisles.

If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please let an usher know. If, for any reason, you choose not to receive the bread and wine, we invite you to come forward for a blessing.

***LAMB OF GOD**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us,
mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Meditation for Marimba and Organ – Paul Creston
Honoka Masuyama, marimba

He Is Exalted

He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex-alt-ed on high; I will praise___ him.

He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise his

name. Je - sus is Lord, for-ev-er his truth shall reign;

hea - ven and earth re - joice in his ho - ly name.

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major and 6/8 time. It features a melodic line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex-alt-ed on high; I will praise___ him. He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise his name. Je - sus is Lord, for-ev-er his truth shall reign; hea - ven and earth re - joice in his ho - ly name. He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests.

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in, with, and under the bread of the Earth and the fruit of the vine, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

C: **Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.**

*BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

C: **Amen.**



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon

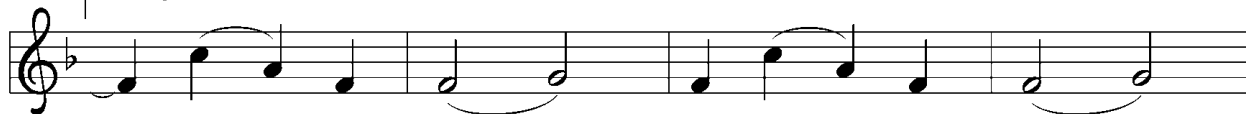


soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

*DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry continues to serve hundreds of meals each month and helps to support our neighbors with basic needs. Thank you to all who have donated to help this cause! Your continued support is needed and appreciated. For May, we are asking for donations of 2 lb. bags of rice, pasta, paper towels, and toilet paper.

Coffee Hour

If you, your ministry team, or another organization would like to sponsor our after-service coffee hour, please sign-up by scanning this QR code with the camera on your phone.



Prayer Shawls are available for anyone to take for themselves or give to a friend or family member. A basket with shawls is in the Narthex and a larger supply is in the lounge in the Parish Building. Please take a shawl and write your name on the list provided so we can keep track of the number of shawls that are given. In addition, we have Baby Blankets for any newborn that you may know. They are in the lounge in the Parish Building. If you need help, the Prayer Shawl Committee can help - Bobbee Canfield, Lynne Strecker, and Lynn Sherman.

Be Part of Emanuel's Worship Leadership!

Have you ever thought of serving as an Assisting Minister, lector, acolyte, usher, choir member or musician, communion assistant, altar guild, or greeter? If you are interested in any of these ministries, let Maureen Leyes know (except for choir and musicians—let Jonathan know) - and she'll connect you with the people that handle the scheduling. Information on becoming a lector is shared below.

Readers Needed

Parishioners of all ages are invited to read the weekly Bible lessons. If you are interested, please email Lynn Sherman at lynnsherman480@gmail.com or call her cell phone: (860) 550-0518.

Altar Flowers

Each Sunday we are blessed to have beautiful flowers in the sanctuary. You can sponsor these flowers by accessing the Sign-Up Genius with this QR code or by calling the church office at 860-525-0894. You can give the flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone. You might want to mark a special birthday or anniversary or even give thanks for one of our ministry teams that is special to you. Your donation of \$75 will cover the cost of the flowers.



Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

Carol Johnson † Karin Gottier † Bert Johnson † Betsyann Carter † Anne Louise Swanson
† Lee Sherman † Jennings-Marzett Family † Mckenna Jobes † Brooklyn King † Elaine Wilson
† Vito Vitrano † Monique Jennings † Rae Ann Gremel
† Harris Kannah † Janet Starkes

Homebound: Ellie Olson † Elaine Wilson † Joan Johnson † Anna-Lisa Johnson
† Peggy Zachariasen

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